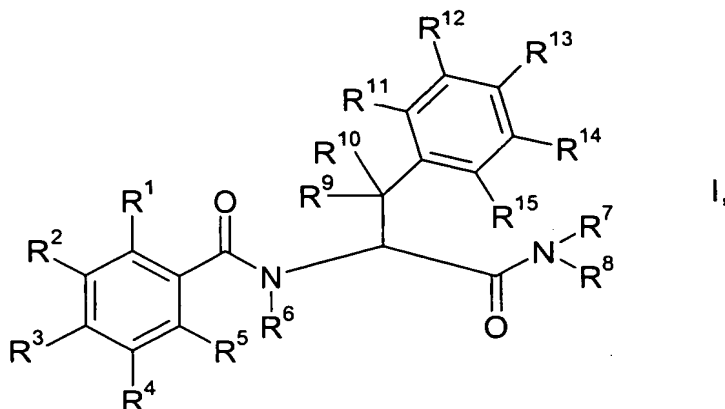


We claim:

1. A benzoyl-substituted phenylalanineamide of the formula I



5 in which the variables are as defined below:

- R^1 is halogen, cyano, C_1 - C_6 -alkyl, C_1 - C_6 -haloalkyl, C_1 - C_6 -haloalkoxy, nitro, hydroxycarbonyl, C_1 - C_6 -alkoxycarbonyl, C_1 - C_6 -haloalkylthio or phenyl;
- 10 R^2, R^3, R^4, R^5 are hydrogen, halogen, cyano, C_1 - C_6 -alkyl, C_1 - C_6 -haloalkyl, C_1 - C_6 -alkoxy, C_1 - C_6 -haloalkoxy, nitro, amino, C_1 - C_6 -alkylamino, di(C_1 - C_6 -alkyl)amino, C_1 - C_6 -alkylthio or C_1 - C_6 -alkoxycarbonyl;
- R^6, R^7 are hydrogen, hydroxyl or C_1 - C_6 -alkoxy;
- 15 R^8 is C_1 - C_6 -alkyl, C_1 - C_4 -cyanoalkyl or C_1 - C_6 -haloalkyl;
- R^9 is OR^{16} , SR^{17} or $NR^{18}R^{19}$;
- 20 R^{10} is hydrogen or C_1 - C_6 -alkyl;
- R^{11}, R^{12} are hydrogen, halogen, cyano, C_1 - C_6 -alkyl, C_1 - C_6 -haloalkyl, hydroxyl, C_1 - C_6 -alkoxy, C_1 - C_6 -haloalkoxy, hydroxyl, nitro, hydroxy- C_1 - C_4 -alkyl, C_1 - C_6 -alkoxy- C_1 - C_4 -alkyl, tri(C_1 - C_6 -alkyl)silyloxy- C_1 - C_4 -alkyl, C_1 - C_4 -alkylthio, (hydroxycarbonyl)- C_1 - C_6 -alkyl, (C_1 - C_6 -alkoxycarbonyl)- C_1 - C_6 -alkyl, (hydroxycarbonyl)- C_2 - C_6 -alkenyl, (C_1 - C_6 -alkoxycarbonyl)- C_2 - C_6 -alkenyl, (hydroxycarbonyl)- C_1 - C_4 -alkoxy, (C_1 - C_4 -alkoxycarbonyl)- C_1 - C_4 -alkoxy, (C_1 - C_4 -alkylcarbonyl)oxy- C_1 - C_4 -alkyl, hydroxycarbonyl- C_1 - C_4 -alkoxy- C_1 - C_4 -alkyl, (C_1 - C_4 -alkylsulfonyl)oxy- C_1 - C_4 -alkyl, C_1 - C_4 -alkyl-O-
- 25

- 5 C(O)-[C₁-C₄-alkyl-O]₃-C₁-C₄-alkyl, carbamoyloxy-C₁-C₄-alkyl, (C₁-C₄-alkylaminocarbonyl)oxy-C₁-C₄-alkyl, [di(C₁-C₄-alkyl)aminocarbonyl]oxy-C₁-C₄-alkyl, [(C₁-C₄-haloalkylsulfonyl)aminocarbonyl]oxy-C₁-C₄-alkyl, benzyloxy, where the phenyl ring may be substituted by 1 to 3 radicals from the group consisting of halogen and C₁-C₄-alkyl,
- 10 amino, C₁-C₄-alkylamino, di(C₁-C₄-alkyl)amino, (C₁-C₄-alkylsulfonyl)-amino, C₁-C₄-(haloalkylsulfonyl)amino, (C₁-C₄-alkylcarbonyl)amino, carbamoylamino, (C₁-C₄-alkylamino)carbonylamino, [di(C₁-C₄-alkyl)amino]carbonylamino, [(C₁-C₄-haloalkylsulfonyl)aminocarbonyl]-
- 15 amino, phenyl or heterocyclyl, where the phenyl and the heterocyclyl radical of the two last-mentioned substituents may carry 1 to 3 radicals from the following group: halogen, nitro, C₁-C₄-alkyl, C₁-C₄-haloalkyl, hydroxycarbonyl and C₁-C₆-alkoxycarbonyl;
- 20 R¹³, R¹⁴, R¹⁵ are hydrogen, halogen, cyano, C₁-C₆-alkyl, C₁-C₆-haloalkyl, C₁-C₆-alkoxy, C₁-C₆-haloalkoxy, nitro, hydroxyl, C₁-C₄-alkylthio or benzyloxy;
- 25 R¹⁶, R¹⁷, R¹⁸ are hydrogen, C₁-C₆-alkyl, tri(C₁-C₆-alkyl)silyl, C₃-C₆-cycloalkyl, C₃-C₆-alkenyl, C₃-C₆-alkynyl, C₃-C₆-haloalkenyl, C₃-C₆-haloalkynyl, formyl, C₁-C₆-alkylcarbonyl, C₃-C₆-cycloalkylcarbonyl, C₂-C₆-alkenylcarbonyl, C₂-C₆-alkynylcarbonyl, C₁-C₆-alkoxycarbonyl, C₃-C₆-alkenyloxycarbonyl, C₃-C₆-alkynyloxycarbonyl, C₁-C₆-alkylaminocarbonyl, C₃-C₆-alkenylaminocarbonyl, C₃-C₆-alkynylaminocarbonyl, C₁-C₆-alkylsulfonylaminocarbonyl, C₁-C₆-haloalkylsulfonylaminocarbonyl, di(C₁-C₆-alkyl)aminocarbonyl, N-(C₃-C₆-alkenyl)-N-(C₁-C₆-alkyl)aminocarbonyl, N-(C₃-C₆-alkynyl)-N-(C₁-C₆-alkyl)aminocarbonyl, N-(C₁-C₆-alkoxy)-N-(C₁-C₆-alkyl)aminocarbonyl, N-(C₃-C₆-alkenyl)-N-(C₁-C₆-alkoxy)aminocarbonyl, N-(C₃-C₆-alkynyl)-N-(C₁-C₆-alkoxy)aminocarbonyl, di(C₁-C₆-alkyl)aminothiocabonyl, C₁-C₆-alkylcarbonyl-C₁-C₆-alkyl, C₁-C₆-alkoxyimino-C₁-C₆-alkyl, N-(C₁-C₆-alkylamino)imino-C₁-C₆-alkyl or N-(di-C₁-C₆-alkylamino)imino-C₁-C₆-alkyl,
- 30 where the alkyl, cycloalkyl and alkoxy radicals mentioned may be partially or fully halogenated and/or may carry 1 to 3 of the following groups: cyano, hydroxyl, C₃-C₆-cycloalkyl, C₁-C₄-alkoxy, C₁-C₄-alkylthio, di(C₁-C₄-alkyl)amino, C₁-C₄-alkylcarbonyl,
- 35

hydroxycarbonyl, C₁-C₄-alkoxycarbonyl, aminocarbonyl, C₁-C₄-alkylaminocarbonyl, di(C₁-C₄-alkyl)-aminocarbonyl or C₁-C₄-alkylcarbonyloxy;

5 phenyl, phenyl-C₁-C₆-alkyl, phenylcarbonyl, phenylcarbonyl-C₁-C₆-alkyl, phenoxycarbonyl, phenylaminocarbonyl, phenylsulfonylaminocarbonyl, N-(C₁-C₆-alkyl)-N-(phenyl)aminocarbonyl, phenyl-C₁-C₆-alkylcarbonyl, heterocyclyl, heterocyclyl-C₁-C₆-alkyl, heterocyclylcarbonyl, heterocyclylcarbonyl-C₁-C₆-alkyl, heterocyclylloxycarbonyl, heterocyclylaminocarbonyl, heterocyclylsulfonylaminocarbonyl, N-(C₁-C₆-alkyl)-N-(heterocyclyl)aminocarbonyl or heterocyclyl-C₁-C₆-alkylcarbonyl,

10 where the phenyl and the heterocyclyl radical of the 17 last-mentioned substituents may be partially or fully halogenated and/or may carry 1 to 3 of the following groups: nitro, cyano, C₁-C₄-alkyl, C₁-C₄-haloalkyl, C₁-C₄-alkoxy or C₁-C₄-haloalkoxy SO₂R²⁰; -C(O)-[C₁-C₄-alkyl-O]₃-C₁-C₄-alkyl; or -C(O)-O-C₁-C₄-alkyl-O-phenyl, where the phenyl radical may optionally be substituted by 1 to 3 radicals from the group consisting of halogen and C₁-C₄-alkyl;

R¹⁹ is hydrogen, C₁-C₆-alkyl, C₃-C₆-cycloalkyl, C₃-C₆-alkenyl, C₃-C₆-alkynyl, C₃-C₆-haloalkenyl, C₃-C₆-haloalkynyl,

25 where the alkyl and cycloalkyl radicals mentioned may be partially or fully halogenated and/or may carry 1 to 3 of the following groups: cyano, hydroxyl, C₃-C₆-cycloalkyl, C₁-C₄-alkoxy, C₁-C₄-alkylthio, di(C₁-C₄-alkyl)amino, C₁-C₄-alkylcarbonyl, hydroxycarbonyl, C₁-C₄-alkoxycarbonyl, aminocarbonyl, C₁-C₄-alkylaminocarbonyl, di(C₁-C₄-alkyl)aminocarbonyl or C₁-C₄-alkylcarbonyloxy; or

30 phenyl, phenyl-C₁-C₆-alkyl, heterocyclyl or heterocyclyl-C₁-C₆-alkyl, where the phenyl and the heterocyclyl radical of the 4 last-mentioned substituents may be partially or fully halogenated, and/or may carry 1 to 3 of the following groups: nitro, cyano, C₁-C₄-alkyl, C₁-C₄-haloalkyl, C₁-C₄-alkoxy or C₁-C₄-haloalkoxy;

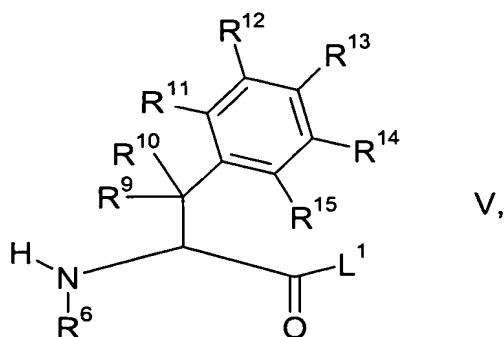
R²⁰ is C₁-C₆-alkyl, C₁-C₆-haloalkyl or phenyl,

where the phenyl radical may be partially or fully halogenated and/or may carry 1 to 3 of the following groups: C₁-C₆-alkyl, C₁-C₆-haloalkyl or C₁-C₆-alkoxy;

5 or an agriculturally useful salt thereof.

2. The benzoyl-substituted phenylalanineamide of the formula I according to claim 1, where R¹ is halogen or C₁-C₆-haloalkyl.
- 10 3. The benzoyl-substituted phenylalanineamide of the formula according to claim 1 or 2, where R² and R³ independently of one another are hydrogen, halogen or C₁-C₆-haloalkyl.
4. The benzoyl-substituted phenylalanineamide of the formula I according to any of claims 1 to 3, where R⁴, R⁵, R⁶, R⁷, R¹⁰, R¹³, R¹⁴ and R¹⁵ are hydrogen.
- 15 5. The benzoyl-substituted phenylalanineamide of the formula I according to any of claims 1 to 4, where R⁹ is OR¹⁶.
- 20 6. A process for preparing benzoyl-substituted phenylalanineamides of the formula I according to claim 1, which comprises

reacting phenylalanines of the formula V

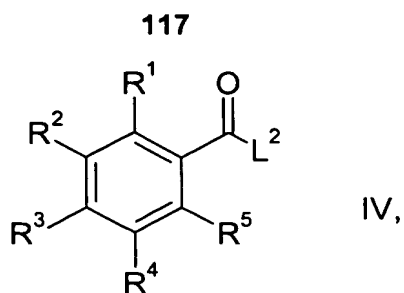


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where R⁶ and R⁹ to R¹⁵ are as defined in claim 1 and L¹ is a nucleophilically displaceable leaving group,

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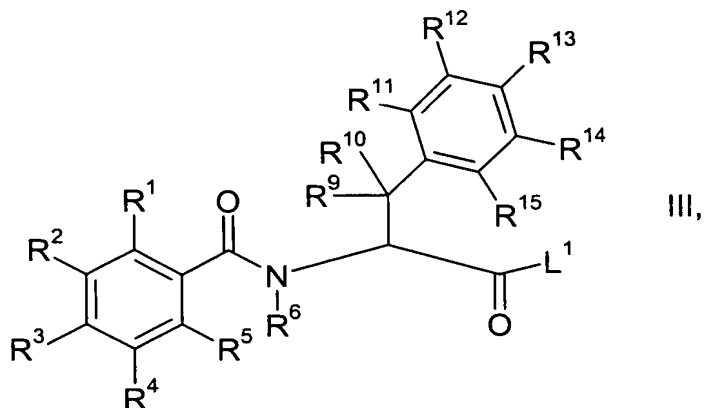
with benzoic acids or benzoic acid derivatives of the formula IV



where R^1 to R^5 are as defined in claim 1 and L^2 is a nucleophilically displaceable leaving group

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to give the corresponding benzoyl derivatives of the formula III



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where R^1 to R^6 and R^9 to R^{15} are as defined in claim 1 and L^1 is a nucleophilically displaceable leaving group

and then reacting the resulting benzoyl derivatives of the formula III with an amine of the formula II

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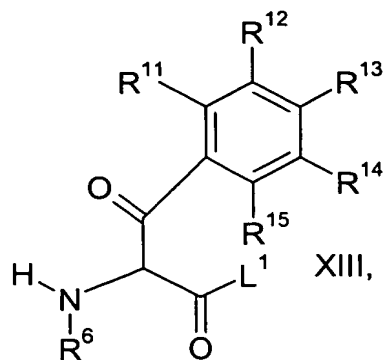


where R^7 and R^8 are as defined in claim 1.

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7. The process for preparing benzoyl-substituted phenylalanineamides of the formula I according to claim 6, where R^9 is hydroxyl and R^{10} is hydrogen, which comprises converting benzoyl derivatives of the formula III where R^9 is hydroxyl and R^{10} is hydrogen by acylation of keto compounds of the formula XIII

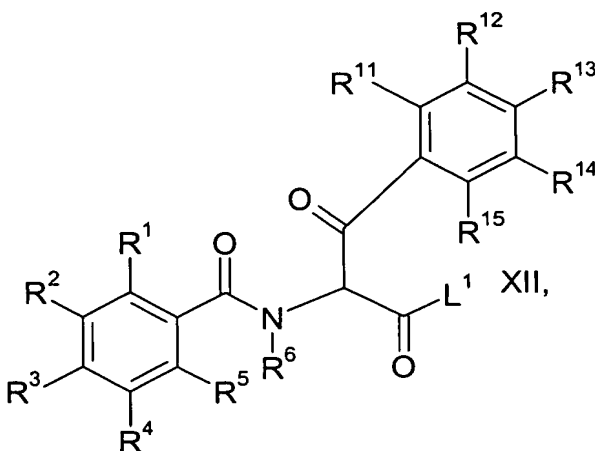
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where R⁶ and R¹¹ to R¹⁵ are as defined in claim 1 and L¹ is a nucleophilically displaceable leaving group

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with benzoic acids/benzoic acid derivatives of the formula IV into N-acyl keto compounds of the formula XII



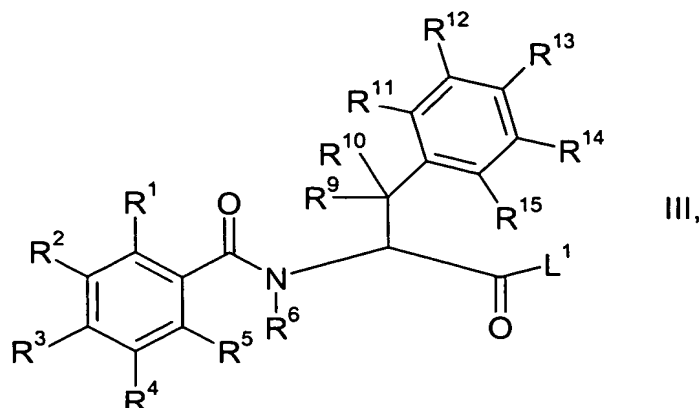
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where R¹ to R⁶ and R¹¹ to R¹⁵ are as defined in claim 1 and L¹ is a nucleophilically displaceable leaving group, followed by reduction of the keto group.

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8. A benzoyl derivative of the formula III

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where R¹ to R⁶ and R⁹ to R¹⁵ are as defined in claim 1 and L¹ is a nucleophilically displaceable leaving group.

5

9. A composition, comprising a herbicidally effective amount of at least one benzoyl-substituted phenylalanineamide of the formula I or an agriculturally useful salt of I according to any of claims 1 to 5 and auxiliaries customary for formulating crop protection agents.
10. A process for preparing compositions according to claim 8, which comprises mixing a herbicidally effective amount of at least one benzoyl-substituted phenylalanineamide of the formula I or an agriculturally useful salt of I according to any of claims 1 to 5 and auxiliaries customary for formulating crop protection agents.
11. A method for controlling unwanted vegetation, which comprises allowing a herbicidally effective amount of at least one benzoyl-substituted phenylalanineamide of the formula I or an agriculturally useful salt of I according to any of claims 1 to 5 to act on plants, their habitat and/or on seed.
12. The use of a benzoyl-substituted phenylalanineamide of the formula I according to any of claims 1 to 5 or an agriculturally useful salt thereof as a herbicide.

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